

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 00391 132214Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 MCT-01 USSS-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01
FBIE-00 L-03 H-01 /062 W
-----132220Z 034762 /62

P 132147Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6225

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 0391

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORS, ASEC, PINS, VE
SUBJECT: NIEHOUS KIDNAPPING

REF: CARACAS 0268

1. CARACAS PRESS IN RECENT DAYS HAVE BEEN FULL OF STORIES ABOUT ALLEGED SEARCHES, IN A NUMBER OF STATES, FOR THE BODY OF WILLIAM NIEHOUS, BY THE VENEZUELAN POLICE (PTJ) OR OTHER GOV AGENCIES. ONE STORY ALSO ASSERTED THAT PTJ WAS SENDING A SPECIAL DELEGATION TO TOLEDO, OHIO TO TALK TO MRS. NIEHOUS. AS STATED IN THE REFERENCE, THESE STORIES ARE VASTLY EXAGGERATED.

2. ON JANUARY 12 AND 13, EMBOFFS SPOKE TO REPRESENTATIVES OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE (DIM), PTJ AND THE INTERIOR MINISTRY'S SECURITY SERVICE (DISIP). SITUATION IS THAT PTJ HAS RECEIVED SOME TELEPHONE TIPS ABOUT THE SUPPOSED LOCATION OF WILLIAM NIEHOUS' BODY. THE PTJ HAS CHECKED INTO THESE TELEPHONE CALLS AND DUG SOME HOLES AND FOUND THAT THEY WERE FALSE ALARMS. DISIP, HOWEVER, IS CONTINUING THE SEARCH IN TRUJILLOR STATE MENTIONED IN THE REFERENCE. IN OTHER WORDS, MOST OF WHAT HAS APPEARED IN THE CARACAS PRESS HAS EITHER BEEN EXAGGERATION OR FABRICATION.

3. ACCORDING TO DISIP, IT IS THE ONLY AGENCY WITH
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INVESTIGATIVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE NIEHOUS CASE.
THE DIM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HOLDING PRISONER THE FOUR PERSONS THUS FAR ARRESTED IN THE CASE. THE PTJ IS NOT, REPEAT NOT, INVOLVED IN THE CASE EXCEPT THAT ITS TECHNICAL LABORATORIES (WHICH DISIP LACKS) HAVE BEEN USED OCCASIONALLY AND SOME OF ITS MEN HAVE BEEN USED FOR DIGGING OR TO PROVIDE MANPOWER FOR CORDONING AND SWEEP OPERATIONS.

4. AS OF JANUARY 13, DISIP REPORTS NO NEW SUBSTANTIAL
LEADS.
VAKY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, DEATHS, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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